Vancouver metro

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2016

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Co-founder Chris Diplock in Vancouver's Mosaic Creek Park on Wednesday.
DAVID P. BALL/METRO

Meet the THINGERY

New pilot lending library of random stuff

metroNEWS

Millennials fight skyrocketing housing prices

ONLINE PETITION

City's would-be homebuyers would have to save 23 years

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

Nearly a thousand Canadians have signed an online petition against skyrocketing housing prices across the country, particularly for young adults scrambling to stay afloat.

The Homes First petition, spearheaded by the millennial advocacy group Generation Squeeze, is calling for political leaders at every level across the country to defend young adults from being priced out of their own cities.

"This petition is a way to showcase for young and old alike that ... our housing market has to be about homes first, investment returns second," the organization's founder Paul Kershaw said Wednesday.

Despite being quietly launched two weeks ago, the petition had already garnered 968 signatures Wednesday.

Real estate has turned into an increasingly hot topic in some of Canada's biggest urban centres as housing costs — for both owners and renters — outpace earnings.

For example, in 1976 it took the average Canadian just five years to save up the 20 per cent down payment on a home. Today, it takes 12.

In Toronto, it would take 16 years to save that much, and in Canada's most extreme housing market, Vancouver — where single-family homes have jumped 32 per cent in the last year — would-be buyers have to save for 23 years. Even the city's renters are feeling the crunch, with Metro reporting last week that rents are set to climb 20 per cent this year.

But the affordability crisis isn't just in B.C., which is rated "critical condition" by the Canadian Rental Housing Index. Toronto is also rated "critical," slightly worse than the "severe condition" of housing costs in Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax.

"That is a massive deterioration in the standard of living," Kershaw said. "The housing market is breaking for generations of residents and their kids."

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Your essential daily news

More bodies being pulled from rubble after earthquake in central Italy. **World**

Tree-planting climate plan 'totally legitimate': Expert

EMISSIONS

Green groups say forestry approach is not enough

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

The science behind the major piece of British Columbia's new climate plan — plant more trees — is "totally legitimate" despite criticism from environmentalists, according to a leading expert.

By rehabilitating hundreds of thousands of hectares of forest impacted by wildfire and Mountain Pine Beetle (300,000 hectares in the first five years), B.C. says it can cut annual greenhouse gas emissions by up to 11.7 million tonnes by 2050.

The strategy is biggest source of emission reductions forecast in the new Climate Leadership Plan, which aims to cut emissions by 25 million tonnes annually by 2050, but it has come under scrutiny.

"We don't calculate into our emissions lost carbon sinks due to forestry. If we're going to start counting the trees we're planting, we have to start counting the trees that we're logging," said Stand (formerly ForestEthics) B.C. campaigner Sven Biggs. "It's like running a business and only counting your sales but not your costs."

The B.C. Government wants to plant more trees in areas affected by the Mountain Pine Beetle and wildfire to cut its annual greenhouse gas emissions. JEFF HODGSON/METRO FILE

Seth Klein, of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, said staking almost half of the province's climate plan on the forestry sector is "highly risky" due to its susceptibility to climate change.

"While such forestry measures are welcome, they don't actually cut carbon pollution emissions at all," Klein wrote in his review of the plan. "Seeking to have our forests sequester more carbon is terrific, but the point of our GHG emission reduction law was to actually lower emissions."

The province's forestry sector produced the equivalent of 62 million tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2014 through decay, slash pile burning, wildfires and emissions from the decomposition of harvested wood products.

That number is not included in total B.C. emissions (which itself was more than 64 million tonnes), though emissions from vehicles and mills used in forestry are.

> **Government essentially will be paying to create new carbon sinks.** Werner Kurz

Logging companies are already required to re-plant areas that have been harvested in B.C.

Because B.C.'s planned Forest Carbon Initiative focuses on rehabilitating burned or infested forests not related to forestry, the methodology used by the province to calculate its emission reductions is sound, according to Werner Kurz, senior research scientist at the federal government's Pacific Forestry Centre.

"Government essentially will be paying to create new carbon sinks," the author of six land use and forestry reports for the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change told Metro. "If they're successful, it will lead to the removal of carbon from the atmosphere that it otherwise wouldn't have. I think it's totally legitimate."

Many nations including Canada, he said, are increasingly looking at land use and forestry management as effective tools to mitigate climate change, he said.

Without passing judgment on the plan, Kurz believes 11.7 million tonnes in reduced emissions by 2050 through rehabilitation is an attainable goal as long those actions are fully implemented.

Taken as a whole, Sybil Seitzinger, executive director of the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, said the plan would only take the province halfway to its 2050 goal of reducing emissions by 80 per over 2007 levels.

11.7 million

The tonnage of greenhouse gas emissions that the B.C. government says it can cancel by reclaiming hundreds of forest ravaged by fire and infestation.

Premier Christy Clark ruled out an increase to the carbon tax — a key recommendation of her Climate Leadership Team — until other provinces "catch up" but promised to keep adding to the plan over time.

B.C. is also at the table with other provinces and the federal government on a pan-Canadian climate plan, which could include more action taken by B.C.

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REAL ESTATE

Housing market strong for next two years

A credit union is forecasting that British Columbia's housing market will remain strong for the next two years as a growing population and limited housing supply continue to push prices up, particularly on Vancouver Island.

However, Central 1 Credit Union says a new tax on foreign buyers will cause a substantial but temporary 10 per cent drop in Metro Vancouver sales that will extend into 2017.

Senior economist Bryan Yu says the tax puts further downward pressure on a market that has already been slowing after a very strong spring.

He expects Metro Vancouver sales to rebound due to the strong local economy and lack of supply, although he says prices will grow at a much slower rate than they did in the first part of 2016. The annual median price of a home in the region grew nearly 20 per cent this year to $705,000, but Yu says prices will rise just four per cent in 2017 and 4.4 per cent in 2018 to $765,000.

He says the declines in Metro Vancouver are being offset by gains on Vancouver Island and, to a lesser extent, in Interior B.C., where people are relocating for work and more affordable housing.

"You're also seeing the in-migration flows, not only from other provinces, like Alberta but also I think from Metro Vancouver, pushing into these more affordable areas," Yu says in an interview. During the recession, few new homes were built in these regions and they suffered from excess supply, he says. But now, most of the extra housing stock has been sold off.

At the same time, Victoria has seen two per cent employment growth, with lifts in tourism, the film and television industry, and the public sector. All these factors are helping to drive a 20 per cent annualized rise in home prices in Victoria, while Nanaimo is seeing an eight to 10 per cent bump, Yu says. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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One cannabis product for dogs comes in the form of biscuits.
WANYEE LI/METRO

Pot for your pooch? Be careful: Vet

MEDICINE

Dispensaries say it can help some dogs with anxiety

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Pot can help man's best friend too, say several Vancouver pot shop operators, but at least one vet is warning pet owners to proceed with caution.

A sign outside Cannawide, a medical marijuana dispensary on West 4th, claims cannabis products can help dogs with anxiety and joint pain.

Some people come into the store solely to buy cannabis products for their dogs with no intention of using medicinal pot products themselves, said Andrew Gordon, community integration director at the Cannawide.

"I have people who literally come in off the street, become members strictly because they want access for their dogs and it's really important to them," he said. "We have a hard time keeping them on the shelf here." The dog biscuits have the chemical cannabidiol (CBD) in them, which does not have psychoactive effects said Gordon. In other words, dogs are not supposed to get high from eating the treats.

Many people will do anything for the canine member of the family and cannabis is one possible solution for pain, said another dispensary owner.

"It seems like a logical assumption that if it works for humans it might work for an animal," said Andrea Dobbs, co-founder of The Village Cannabis Dispensary. The store has regulars who rely on the dog products for everything from pain to temperament management.

> **There is no major study to confirm that there is a benefit for dogs.**
> Parmjit Dhillon

But one vet says this is still a grey area for medical professionals.

"People use (medical marijuana) for seizures, cancer, anxiety, and arthritis," said Parmjit Dhillon, director and owner of Burrard Animal Hospital.

"But there is no major study to confirm that there is a benefit for dogs."

Until marijuana is legalized, vets have their hands tied when it comes to prescribing or even suggesting pet owners try cannabis products on animals, he said.

"They should really talk to the doctor to see if there are other safer options."

Thingery hopes to amp up local sharing

POP-UP EVENTS

Lending library wants to expand into shipping containers

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

The Thingery is for now only a temporary installation, but architect Kara Burman created this design for a permanent fixture using a shipping container. COURTESY KARA BURMAN/THE THINGERY

Short 12 street hockey sticks to play a game? Want to borrow a bocce set for your beach party? Need a power saw for your DIY project?

Don't worry: The Thingery's got you covered.

The newly unveiled Vancouver lending library is holding a series of "pop-up" events this month in Grandview-Woodland neighbourhood's Mosaic Creek Park — the next one is on Saturday — and its inventory of random stuff is growing.

Someone even donated a set of golf clubs and an inflatable chair, should those strike your fancy.

The concept behind The Thingery has "been on the backburner for the while," explained its co-founder Chris Diplock in a phone interview. "The idea is to be able to help pool things and give access to better ways the community can interact."

Organizers hope to eventually expand the project on a more permanent basis across the city in custom-designed shipping containers that offer neighbours a chance to donate or borrow inventory.

Although the pop-up events this week are being hosted out of a Modo car co-op van and a temporary tent — thanks to funding from Vancity Credit Union — Diplock teamed up with architect Kara Burman who created a design for future Thingeries using refurbished shipping containers.

"It's not just about having access to things we wouldn't normally as a group, on one side, and extending the life of the donated items on the other," Diplock said. "Thingeries are also going to be a centrepiece of the community — a place people can swing by and get to know each other."

As part of the community-building aspect, Thingery organizers will host a variety of games at their pop-up events, such as street hockey, dodge ball and more.

Diplock isn't new to what he called the "community-based sharing model" behind the project.

He's the lead researcher for The Sharing Project, and helped create the Vancouver Tool Library (3448 Commercial St.), a member-based co-operative that offers a wide array of home improvement and DIY implements.

He said the latter project has proven that people can be trusted to return the borrowed items, and membership rules and late fines also discourage theft.

But don't expect a shipping container full of random donated junk.

"People feel good when they give," Diplock said, "and they give high-quality stuff.

"Because this initiative is directly there for the community, people want to donate to it and help other people access things."

The Thingery will hold a series of "pop-up" events in Mosaic Creek Park (McLean Drive between William and Charles streets).

The next one is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., followed next Wednesday from 4-10 p.m.

WILDLIFE

Skunk trap illustrates disturbing trend

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

If skunks or racoons are making unwelcome visits to your home, please don't resort to using leg-hold traps.

That's the message an animal advocacy group is spreading following the discovery of a skunk with its leg caught in a trap at Fraser and 49th in Vancouver this Sunday.

"We see more and more of this urban trapping, people not knowing what they're doing and resorting to these barbaric devices," said Adrian Nelson, director of communications at the Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals.

A resident found the skunk, trap still attached, trying to fit under a fence. He was able to catch it in a towel — getting a bit of skunk spray in his mouth in the process, Nelson said — and delivered it to the Wildlife Rescue Association of B.C. The association treated the skunk for lacerations and to prevent infection.

Using leg-hold traps is not a humane way to deal with animals, and people who set them could be prosecuted under Canada's animal cruelty laws or B.C.'s Wildlife Act, Nelson said. Fur-Bearers is offering a $1,000 reward for information that would lead to identification and conviction of the person who set the trap.

The trapped skunk in Vancouver isn't the only example of animals being caught in traps: there have also been several raccoons recently found missing their front paws in Victoria's Oak Bay neighbourhood. Leg-hold traps can also pose a danger to cats and small children.

Professional pest management companies can be brought in to trap skunks humanely. Residents can try to deal with the problem themselves by blocking off holes to underground burrows or putting a rag soaked in bleach or ammonia in a used yoghurt container in an area the animal frequents, Nelson said.

Leg-hold traps aren't commonly for sale in stores, but people buy them online or at garage sales.

Fur-Bearers is advocating for municipalities to ban leg-hold traps, similar to the pesticide bans that have been introduced in several cities.

A leg-hold trap that had been used to catch a skunk in South Vancouver. CONTRIBUTED

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Surrey program encourages immigrants to help each other

PEER AMBASSADORS

Plan is for new arrivals to be aided by those who've settled

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

Zoreen Abu Aboud, a volunteer with DIVERSEcity's peer ambassador program, hopes to help recent immigrants connect with literacy programs. COURTESY ANDREA THOMPSON/UNITED WAY AVENUES OF CHANGE

Zoreen Abu Aboud isn't shy about striking up a conversation with a stranger. So becoming a volunteer peer ambassador who connects newcomers to Canada with literacy and health services was a natural fit.

"I like to volunteer, I like dealing with people," said the Surrey resident who first came to Canada 15 years ago.

Abu Aboud is part of a new program organized by DIVERSEcity, an immigrant services organization in Surrey, that aims to connect immigrants who have been in Canada for some time with those who have just recently arrived. The peer ambassadors are trained to approach newcomers in a friendly, casual way, striking up a conversation in the newcomers' mother tongue.

The hope is that this approach will be more effective in connecting new immigrants with services that could improve literacy and health outcomes, said Tahzeem Kassam, chief operating officer for DIVERSEcity.

"As human beings, it's hard to accept that we need more education about certain things," Kassam said. "Nobody likes to go up and say 'I know nothing about this.' I think it's important, from a power dynamics perspective, you have a peer, somebody who is like you who is able to share information with you at a level you might be less anxious to receive it."

> **It's important, from a power dynamics perspective, you have a peer, somebody who is like you who is able to share information with you at a level you might be less anxious to receive it.** Tahzeem Kassam

Abu Aboud remembers the challenges her family faced when they first arrived in Canada from Jordan with their two young children: a business they started failed, and her husband, an engineer, decided to return to school in order to improve his job prospects.

"Everything is new, and you have small kids," she recalled.

Her husband is now a construction manager for the City of Surrey while she has become an active volunteer at her children's schools. But she remembers the help her family got at the time and now wants to give back.

The project is part of the United Way's Avenues of Change project, which concentrates on four communities — Guildford in Surrey, Coquitlam River in Tri-Cities, Strathcona in Vancouver and Richmond City Centre — that have particularly high rates of child vulnerability.

For instance, 43 per cent of children in Guildford are considered vulnerable, compared to 35 per cent across Surrey, Kassam said.

Volunteers in the peer ambassador program are trained for two streams: health and literacy. Abu Aboud is in the literacy stream, and she says the work is similar to how she already interacts with other parents as she volunteers at Surrey schools.

DIVERSEcity has graduated six volunteers so far, but would ideally like to have 20 more volunteers complete the next round of training. For more information about the program, contact peerambassadors@dcrs.ca.

SPCA APPEAL

Hunt for pair seen tossing dead dog

The SPCA hopes someone can help them identify two people seen tossing the body of a dog into a dumpster in Coquitlam.

The remains were dumped on July 26, but the information is being released now because the SPCA says necropsy results show the young female boxer-cross died from extreme heat.

Security video from a parking lot in an industrial and commercial area of southeast Coquitlam shows a light-coloured mini-van pulling up behind the building.

Two people get out and throw the dog's body into the container before driving away. It's hoped someone will recognize the people or the vehicle in the footage, or the distinctive blue-and-grey collar and a red-and-black leash the dog was wearing.

"We believe the dog died from extreme heat exposure, where the body's temperature is elevated beyond its ability to release the heat, resulting in a very painful death," she says in a news release.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the provincial SPCA. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The leash of the dog found dead in a dumpster in Coquitlam. COURTESY B.C. SPCA

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Video shows seal outsmart orcas

MARINE LIFE

Hitched a ride with boat full of whale watchers

A seal jumped onto the back of a whale-watching boat to escape a pod of orcas. NICK TEMPLEMAN/YOUTUBE

A savvy seal outwitted a troop of orcas on the hunt off the coast of B.C. this week, flopping onto a whale-watching boat for safety as the orcas circled below.

Nick Templeman, a veteran whale-watching guide, revved up the double-outboard motor Monday to take a family of whale viewers north of Powell River.

Around 4:30 p.m. Templeman spotted a pod of orcas speeding south.

"They started doing sort of circles and little lunges — you can tell they're beginning to get into hunting mode."

Fifteen minutes later a wet, whiskered head popped out of the water 150 metres from the boat. "That was our buddy."

The young seal had been dodging thrusts and tail-kicks from the whales, said Templeman, head of Campbell River Whale & Bear Excursions.

"He'd duck underwater and eventually come back up," Templeman said. "I guess he caught sight of our boat and then just took off like a rocket."

A chase ensued. "At points the whales weren't more than six inches from the back of the seal. It was pretty intense."

The hitchhiking seal didn't wait for a welcome. It hopped right onto the low-lying stern. Or tried to.

"He had a bit of a struggle the first time, but got it on the second," Templeman said.

Templeman dropped his waterproofed GoPro camera below the water's surface, capturing the calls and squeaks of the killer whales.

Eventually, the orcas glided off. The seal plopped back into the Strait of Georgia once the coast was clear, ducked between the twin-outboard engines and vanished.

"I felt kind of bad for the orcas actually," Templeman said.

"In my 20 years, I tell you, it's probably the craziest thing that's happened to me."

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HOUSING

Royal Bank watching market

Royal Bank CEO David McKay says the lender is "closely monitoring" the real-estate markets in Vancouver and Toronto, where home prices have been climbing at a breakneck pace.

"The short supply of single-family homes in both cities — coupled with strong demand fuelled by household formation, including net immigration — has driven strong price appreciation," McKay said during a conference call to discuss the bank's third-quarter results.

McKay added that he supports Ottawa's plan to form a working group to study the housing market and develop recommendations to mitigate some of the risks stemming from the combination of soaring house prices and record levels of consumer debt.

Executives at RBC, which reported $2.895 billion of net income in the third quarter, were peppered with questions about the bank's residential mortgage portfolio during Wednesday's conference call.

Analysts wanted to know what contingency plans the bank has in place in the event of a downturn in house prices.

RBC's chief risk officer Mark Hughes touted the bank's "diligent" process for verifying the incomes of borrowers and noted that the bank doesn't participate in the second mortgage market or offer subprime mortgage loans.

The bank purchased additional portfolio insurance this quarter, Hughes added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Two more cases of bee zombification reported

INSECTS

Little keepers can do to stop fatal parasitic infestation

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Two more cases of zombie bees have been confirmed in Canada, and both are in B.C., according to scientists.

The first case in the country was recorded in July by a beekeeper near Nanaimo but researchers say it is possible the parasite has been infecting honeybees for much longer right under beekeepers noses.

Langford resident Tyler Baldwin noticed honeybees flying near his porch light Friday night. The next morning, a dozen bees lay dead on the front porch.

"It's pretty depressing," said Baldwin, who has cared for three hives for the past three years.

"There's no rhyme or reason to what they're doing. Sometimes they sit on the side of the wall. Sometimes they literally walk in circles.

The zombie bees are actually infected with a parasite called the phorid fly, which lays its eggs in the bees, where the growing larvae attack the host's brain and cause it to act disoriented — like a zombie.

Baldwin has collected 40 dead bees in five days as part of the citizen science project ZomBee Watch since he discovered the dying bees on his porch. Maggots crawled out of one of the dead bees on Tuesday, confirming Baldwin has a case of zombie bees on his hands.

John Hafernik, a scientist at San Francisco State University, said as many as 18 suspected cases of zombie bees in Canada have been recorded since media first reported the phenomenon last week. Baldwin and one other case was the first to come back with confirmed phorid-fly infections.

The fly, which traditionally targets bumblebees and wasps, is native to North America and honeybees were brought over the Europeans in the 1600s, said Hafernik.

"Whether (the fly) has recently switched over to honeybees or whether it was parasitizing honeybees before and we haven't noticed — there is no absolute way for us to tell."

There is little beekeepers can do to keep their hives safe from the phorid fly at this point, said Hafernik. But the healthier the hive, the more likely it is able to survive a zombie bee infection.

"Try and keep the hives as sheltered as possible," he said.

"A hive that is strong and heavy is more likely to be resilient to parasites. At this point we don't have a specific way of controlling the fly."

Beekeeper and Vancouver Island resident Tyler Baldwin has found dead bees on his front porch everyday since he first noticed their strange behaviour Friday night.
COURTESY TYLER BALDWIN

> **It's pretty depressing.**
> Tyler Baldwin

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X-Files creator honoured

VIFF

Festival will present Chris Carter with industry award

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

The truth is out there: Chris Carter has made his mark on Vancouver's film and television landscape.

The creator of The X-Files will be presented with the Vancouver International Film Festival's Industry Builder Award and will also host a one-day forum on sustainable production during the film festival.

VIFF executive producer Jacqueline Dupuis told Metro that Carter, a Californian TV and film producer, director and writer, has helped transform Vancouver into a bustling showbiz town and is deserving of the recognition.

"Chris Carter seemed like an obvious choice (for the award). He helped build this industry," Dupuis said. "He has contributed artistically and creatively to Vancouver's screen-based industry. The X-Files was one of the first big shows to happen here and that put British Columbia on the map as a place to shoot."

Gillian Anderson and Chris Carter arrive at the season premiere of The X-Files at the California Science Center on Jan. 12 in Los Angeles. OMAR VEGA/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> He has contributed artistically and creatively to Vancouver's screen-based industry. Jacqueline Dupuis

The first five seasons of the 1990s supernatural detective show, starring David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson as FBI agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully, were filmed in Vancouver before the show controversially relocated production to Los Angeles.

But the series returned to B.C. for the movie follow-up The X-Files: I Want to Believe and most recently last year for filming of the show's 2016 TV revival as a six-episode mini-series.

While the show and its stars are often painted as having a love-hate relationship with the city and province, Dupuis said Carter always speaks of his love for B.C. and comes close to being an honourary Canadian.

Carter will accept the award Oct. 7 during a luncheon with the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade.

That day, he'll also host the Sustainable Production Forum, presented by Creative B.C., showcasing Vancouver as a destination for green shoots that focus on reducing waste.

Dupuis said the new X-Files mini-series is recognized throughout the television world as a beacon for sustainable production, making Carter a perfect fit to receive the award and speak about creating a greener industry.

According to 21st Century Fox, the production managed to divert more than 81 per cent of its total waste from landfill, recycle 100 per cent of the aluminum and steel used in set construction and avoid 33 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

More info on the forum will be available Sept. 8. This year's Vancouver International Film Festival runs Sept. 29 to Oct. 14.

WEST KELOWNA

Evacuees allowed to return

Residents forced out of their homes by a wildfire west of Kelowna can now return.

The Central Okanagan Regional District says the evacuation order has been lifted for 105 properties near the Bear Creek wildfire, about 10 kilometres north of West Kelowna.

A news release issued by the regional district says Westside Road, the main link between West Kelowna and Vernon, is also open once again, but Bear Creek Provincial Park remains closed until further notice.

The regional district says smoke and flames may still be visible in the area and people returning may find hazards on their properties as a result of the fire.

Rachel Witt, an information officer with the Kamloops Fire Centre, says 49 firefighters are working on the nearly 53-hectare wildfire and it is 85 per cent contained.

Flames broke out late Sunday night, prompting evacuations and road closures, but no homes have been lost. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Study questions LNG perks

ENVIRONMENT

'Far from certain' exports would reduce emissions

A new study is raising questions about the degree to which exports of Canadian liquefied natural gas would help reduce carbon emissions abroad — a core justification for developing such an industry.

The C.D. Howe Institute released a report Wednesday that concluded that Canada's LNG exports could reduce carbon emissions in parts of Asia, but would likely increase emissions in the majority of other potential markets.

The development of LNG exports requires power to cool it into a liquid, as well as energy for the tankers that would ship it overseas so that it can be used in gas-fired power plants.

LNG exports would still reduce overall emissions if they replace coal and oil-fired power production in China, India, Japan and Taiwan, study authors James Coleman and Sarah Jordaan said. But they found that emissions would likely go up in Canada's nine other likely export markets because those countries have greater supplies of renewable and lower-emission power sources.

It is "far from certain" that Canadian LNG exports would reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, Coleman and Jordaan concluded.

The study raises doubts about one of the British Columbia government's selling points for an LNG sector. But Rich Coleman, B.C.'s minister of natural gas development, said in a statement that the province is focused on exporting to countries where LNG would reduce emissions.

"British Columbia's efforts are focused on the four countries the report indicates would benefit from lower emissions using B.C. LNG," said Coleman. "Our analysis indicates that B.C.'s liquefied natural gas could lower China's coal-fuelled power emissions by as much as 20 per cent."

In April 21, 2014, a Liberian LNG tanker Al Hamra arrives at a port in Yokohama, southwest of Tokyo. KOJI SASAHARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **Our analysis indicates that B.C.'s liquefied natural gas could lower China's coal-fuelled power emissions by as much as 20 per cent.** James Coleman

But even as the province touts the environmental benefits of its LNG abroad, the biggest and most high-profile project on the table has come under fire for its potential emissions at home.

The Pacific Northwest LNG project, led by Malaysian energy giant Petronas, has an estimated cost of $36 billion. It is awaiting a final decision from the federal government expected by the end of September following a final report from the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

The development has faced criticism for both direct environmental impacts on fish habitat, as well as its potential to increase domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

The Pembina Institute figures that Pacific Northwest could become the largest source of carbon pollution in Canada — when the associated emissions in supplying it with natural gas are factored in — releasing upwards of 14 megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent a year.

The authors of the C.D. Howe study recommend that federal and provincial governments focus on reducing emissions domestically and encourage similar policies elsewhere, rather than banking on the prospect of LNG exports bringing down emissions abroad, because final markets for Canadian LNG, and what sources of power it would replace, are too difficult to determine. THE CANADIAN PRESS

DIAL-A-DOPE CASE

Court rejects acquittal

The B.C. Court of Appeal has ordered a new trial for a Vernon man acquitted of drug charges after a lower court threw out a key search warrant.

The decision written by Chief Justice Robert Bauman sets aside the acquittal of Christopher Loewen and orders a new trial on charges of possession of cocaine, heroin and marijuana for the purpose of trafficking.

Those charges were dismissed in January 2015 when a provincial court judge in Vernon rejected a warrant that led to the seizure of drugs, cash and other evidence vital to the case against an alleged dial-a-dope operation.

The unanimous decision by three Court of Appeal justices finds Judge Mayland McKimm was wrong to reject the warrant for what he considered a lack of "independently verifiable information" and "bald unsupported assertions."

In overturning Loewen's acquittal, Bauman writes that McKimm wrongly dissected details that supported the warrant, instead of assessing the material "in light of the totality of the circumstances."In the 14-page judgment, Bauman says McKimm "should have found a very strong case for issuing the warrant."

"A search warrant is an investigative tool. Its justification rests on reasonable grounds, not proof beyond a reasonable doubt," writes Bauman. "In my view, the judge's reasons for finding the warrant insufficient simply do not reflect the detailed and compelling evidence."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Floaters travel down the St. Clair River during Float Down at Lighthouse Beach in Port Huron, Mich., on Sunday. About 1,500 Americans on inflatable rafts and boats drifted seriously off course due to high winds and strong currents and landed in Sarnia, Ont.

THE TIMES HERALD VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mayor invites U.S. 'invaders' to return

TOURISM

Wayward Americans leave Sarnia with $8K bill

The mayor of an Ontario border city that was unwittingly visited by 1,500 wayward Americans over the weekend says he'd like the temporary visitors to return — but this time with money, clothes and passports.

Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley says it cost his municipality more than $8,000 after Americans on inflatable rafts and boats drifted seriously off course Sunday due to high winds and strong currents during the annual Port Huron Float Down down the river that divides Michigan and Ontario.

He says the city will cover the costs incurred to deal with the visitors, which included shipping them back across the border in city buses.

An American, meanwhile, has started an online campaign to repay the city, and so far has raised about $2,000 in one day.

Bradley says he appreciates the gesture and says his city will use any money raised by the campaign to celebrate cross-border relations.

> Everyone who responded — police, fire and the coast guard — took the right approach.
> Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley

The mayor says many of the visitors were "over-refreshed" and chanting "U.S.A., U.S.A." as they washed ashore in Sarnia.

"Everyone who responded — police, fire and the coast guard — took the right approach," Bradley said.

The event started at Port Huron's Lighthouse Beach and was supposed to end at Chrysler Beach in Marysville along the St. Clair River.

On Monday, city workers spent several hours picking up trash — beer cans, coolers, rafts and even picnic tables — that washed up on shore.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RIDE-SHARING

Winnipeggers try to woo Uber

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Winnipeg may be the city that Uber forgot. But Jay Hall is bound and determined to remind the company that plenty of people are ready and waiting to ride.

Hall has started a petition that aims to bait the hook for ride-sharing companies to break into the market. It calls on Premier Brian Pallister and Mayor Brian Bowman to "get Uber or Uber-like regulations for Manitoba's taxis."

The company's entry into other cities has sparked debate around the world. But, as far as Hall is concerned, many Winnipeggers are ready to roll out the welcome mat.

People are continually posting stories about negative experiences with taxis, said Hall, who runs a Facebook page called The Winnipeg. Even more have been posted on his petition page — which has more than 350 signatures — with issues raging from safety concerns to rude drivers.

"I am afraid to use cabs in the city alone, and I have had cab drivers try to convince me to pay without the meter," one woman wrote. Some say they have been "refused service" based on where they live.

Hall said he uses ride-sharing in other cities and feels it mitigates most of those concerns.

"The fact that money doesn't change hands — it's all done through the app — means you can't have a cabbie telling you he wants $20 more or taking advantage of inebriated people after a night out," he said. "You can rate your driver, rate your customer, that keeps people honest."

Grits get set for fall

POLITICS

Economy, middle-class, bonding on retreat agenda

Liberal MPs began catching up on vacation stories and other tales from outside the political bubble Wednesday evening as they began arriving for a summer retreat to get ready for a year of tough choices as the government figures out how to deliver on its long list of promises.

"It's good for all of us to get together, talk about what issues are coming up in our constituencies, so we can filter it in to the fall agenda," Veterans Affairs Minister Kent Hehr said as he greeted his Liberal caucus colleagues in the lobby of a hotel in Saguenay, Que., about 210 kilometres north of Quebec City.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is scheduled to arrive here Thursday morning, when the meetings begin in earnest, where he will address the national caucus after they have gathered in smaller regional groups.

The Liberals are being encouraged to spend their free time in the area, with a community event promising a chance for local residents to mingle with Trudeau and the MPs scheduled for Thursday evening.

EXPENSES

- The political pressure is mounting on Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to outline specific measures to control spending among his cabinet ministers, now that two of them find their own practices under the microscope.
- New Democrat caucus chair Charlie Angus and ethics critic Alexandre Boulerice have written to the prime minister about "questionable expenses" that they say may breach Trudeau's own standards of conduct when it comes to public funds.

The details of what will take precedence on the fall legislative agenda have yet to be shared, but Liberal MPs headed into two days of closed-door meetings said they hope for substantial discussions on everything from electoral reform to a review of anti-terror legislation.

The summer caucus meeting comes on the heels of a cabinet retreat in Sudbury, Ont., where the stagnant economy provided the context for a message that the second year in power will require some patience and acceptance of the fact that the government cannot please everyone all of the time.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau greets members of a Syrian refugee family during Canada Day celebrations on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

TOLERANCE

New guide aims to help schools understand, fight Islamophobia

Last spring, school boards grappled with the practical issues that came with welcoming thousands of new Syrian students: finding them desks, pencils, books.

But as they gear up for this school year, Muslim organizations hope they can turn their attention to another problem: warding off the dirty looks — and worse — that many Muslim students say they get at school.

Schools have wrestled with Islamophobia since the terrorist attacks of 9/11 but there was never intense educator interest in combating the problem, said Amira Elghawaby, communications director for the National Council of Canadian Muslims.

That's changed, she said.

"The previous federal election where Islam and Muslims were at the forefront for all the wrong reasons, combined with the arrival of Syrian refugees, suddenly this is on people's radars," she said.

As upwards of 25,000 Syrians have arrived in Canada since November, her organization has begun fielding far more calls about the issue — ranging from people ranting about refugees seeking to change Canadian culture to parents panicked about their child experiencing Islamophobia. Teachers, too, were phoning, seeking resources to help them understand the issue and how to respond.

So the NCCM, the Islamic Social Services Association and the Canadian Human Rights Commission have developed a guide for educators to help them understand the impact of the trauma Syrian kids have experienced abroad and also the experience they, and other Muslims, have of Islamophobia here. THE CANADIAN PRESS

DIVERSITY

Mounties allowing hijab with uniform

Rebecca Williams
Metro | Toronto

The RCMP has adopted a new policy that allows female Muslim officers to wear the hijab.

RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson, the only officer allowed to approve accommodations regarding faith, made the change that came into effect in an updated uniform policy in January 2016.

The policy includes an "exemption" that allows Muslim officers to wear the hijab, if they so choose, in an effort to increase the diversity on Canada's national police force.

"The Royal Canadian Mounted Police is a progressive and inclusive police service that values and respects persons of all cultural and religious backgrounds," Public Safety spokesman Scott Bardsley said.

In 2015, the RCMP began a recruiting blitz with the objective of increasing the number of visible minorities on the force by 20 per cent. In 2013, the number of officers that self-identified as a minority was just 8.7 per cent.

The change in uniform policy comes nearly 26 years after the RCMP approved the turban as part of the uniform for Sikh officers after Baltej Singh Dhillon, an aspiring Mountie, took the force to court in 1990.

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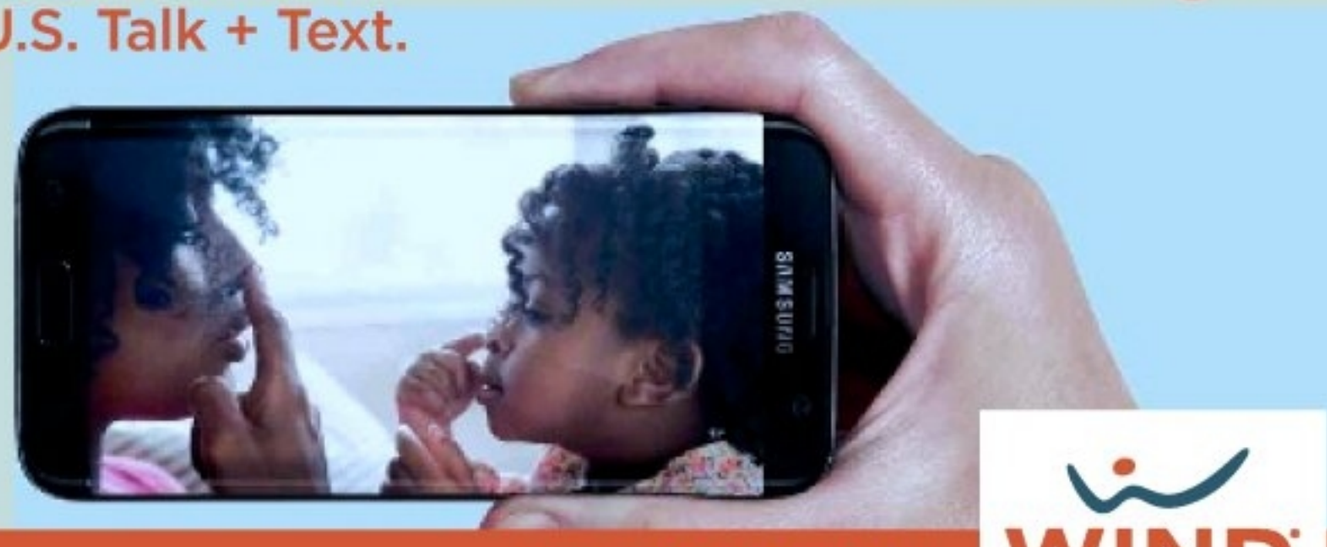

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'The town isn't here anymore' after quake

NATURAL DISASTER

Overnight temblor in Italy leaves a trail of devastation

Rescue crews using bulldozers and their bare hands raced to dig out survivors from a strong earthquake that reduced three central Italian towns to rubble Wednesday. The death toll stood at 159, but the number of dead and missing was uncertain given the thousands of vacationers in the area for summer's final days.

Residents wakened before dawn by the temblor emerged from their crumbled homes to find what they described as apocalyptic scenes "like Dante's Inferno," with entire blocks of buildings turned into piles of sand and rock, thick dust choking the air and a putrid smell of gas.

"The town isn't here anymore," said Sergio Pirozzi, the mayor of the hardest-hit town, Amatrice. "I believe the toll will rise."

Rescuers carry a stretcher after an earthquake in Amatrice, Italy, on Wednesday. ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The magnitude 6.2 quake struck at 3:36 a.m. and was felt across a broad swath of central Italy, including Rome, where residents woke to a long swaying followed by aftershocks. The temblor shook the Lazio region and Umbria and Le Marche on the Adriatic coast, a highly seismic area that has witnessed major quakes in the past.

Dozens of people were pulled out alive by rescue teams and volunteers that poured in from around Italy.

"She's alive!" two women cheered as they ran up the street in Pescara del Tronto, one of the three hardest-hit hamlets, after a 10-year-old girl was pulled from the rubble 17 hours after the quake struck.

Premier Matteo Renzi visited the zone Wednesday, greeted rescue teams and survivors, and pledged that "No family, no city, no hamlet will be left behind."

Italy's civil protection agency reported the death toll had risen to 159 by late Wednesday; at least 368 others were injured.

Worst affected were the tiny towns of Amatrice and Accumoli near Rieti, some 100 kilometres northeast of Rome, and Pescara del Tronto, some 25 kilometres further east. Italy's civil protection agency set up tent cities around each hamlet to accommodate the thousands of homeless.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPACE

Proxima b raises hopes for life beyond Earth

Out of the 100 billion stars in the Milky Way and the many multiples beyond it, one, the red dwarf Proxima Centauri, is our closest stellar neighbour.

On Wednesday, a team of astronomers announced they had discovered a planet orbiting Proxima Centauri — and that the planet is rocky, has a mass similar to Earth's and sits in the "goldilocks" zone where liquid water could exist on its surface.

An artist's rendering of Proxima b orbiting Proxima Centauri. CONTRIBUTED

Twenty-five years ago, astronomers had no direct evidence of planets beyond our solar system. Today, an Earth analogue — a primary target in the search for life elsewhere in the universe — is sitting a cosmic stone's throw away. Much remains unknown about the new planet, which has been dubbed Proxima b. Just because water and life could exist doesn't mean they do.

But one fact is certain: The discovery will set off a massive push to analyze the planet and piece together its history.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

FRANCE

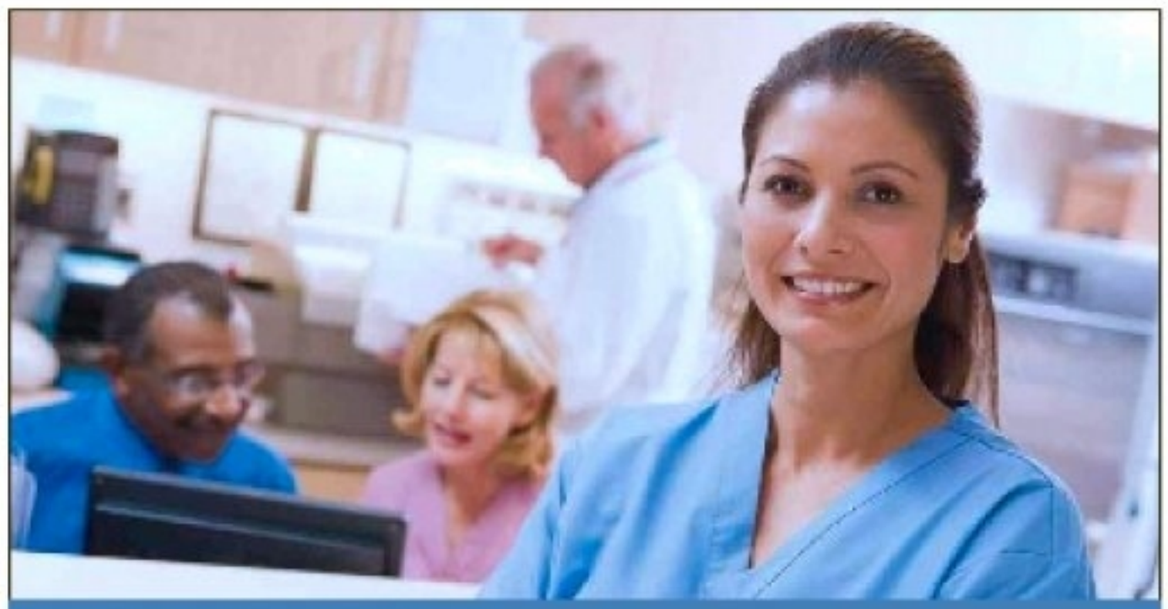
Burkini debate heating up

A Muslim mother from France says she's going to challenge a fine for wearing a burkini on the Riviera.

The woman — who gave her name only as "Siam" — was ordered to remove her swimsuit by French police officers carrying pepper spray and batons on Aug. 16 in Nice.

Images circulated of at least four police officers standing around the woman just metres from the town's Promenade des Anglais.

More than a dozen French communities along the Riviera have banned the burkini. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE WITH FILES FROM AFP/LE FIGARO



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PCTIA

Mickey, Minnie don Mountie's uniform

DISNEY

Canadian firm plans to ship 2,000 stuffies by Christmas

Mickey and Minnie Mouse will soon enough join the Mounties' ranks in red uniforms. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Two famous octogenarian recruits are set to join the ranks of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Mickey and Minnie Mouse will don the Mounties' red uniform, although neither has the required Canadian citizenship.

Stuffed animal versions of the Disney characters made by a Toronto toy company, 2 blue ducks, are due to hit the shelves of mom-and-pop, airport and souvenir stores across the country in a few months.

The dolls are the fruits of more that two years of negotiations between the toy company, RCMP Foundation and Disney to ensure that the characters and uniform look just right, said Michael Glina, the company's managing director.

The toy company needed special permission from the RCMP Foundation to add a red bow with white polka dots to Minnie's standard-issue hat, Glina said.

"Normally, the hat is iconic. You can't really mess with it, but we needed a distinguishable characteristic between Mickey and Minnie."

The RCMP Foundation, a nationally registered charity, also suggested that the text on Mickey and Minnie Mouse's shoulder patch be in both official languages.

"Everything from the way the hat looks, to the jacket, the boots, the eyes, the nose and mouth — every single thing has been painstakingly reviewed," Glina said.

The Mountie outfit has evolved since the late 19th century into a Canadian symbol. The Norfolk jacket, or red serge, was chosen to mimic British army uniforms. Before the wide-brimmed hat became part of the official uniform in 1902, officers wore pith helmets or pillbox hats, RCMP Sgt. Penny Hermann said.

There was no particular reason to dress Mickey and Minnie in Mountie garb, but Glina says Canada's 150th anniversary next year is as good an occasion as any.

The contract was a big score for the Toronto company with two full-time employees, Glina and his wife Jenna — plus a "product tester," their 18-month-old son Cooper.

They plan to ship about 2,000 stuffies to Canada before Christmas. The couple considered making the toys domestically, but found that manufacturing them in Canada would be too expensive, Glina said. To bring the retail cost down to around $30, the dolls are being made in China.

Mickey and Minnie aren't the only kids' icons who have embarked on a side career in Canadian law enforcement. Cookie Monster and Elmo once wore the red serge, but are no longer for sale via the Mountie Shop website.

The licensing fees go toward funding mentorship, nutrition and education programs for youth, said the foundation's president and CEO Hope Henderson. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

LENDING

Credit lines, car loans boost household debt

Canadians' non-mortgage debt loads picked up pace in the second quarter, putting households in an increasingly risky position, an RBC analysis suggested Wednesday.

Balances on consumer loans — including credit cards and lines of credit — grew by 2.6 per cent year-over-year, driven primarily by the continued popularity of lines of credit and auto loans. That was the first uptick in Canadians' appetite for those types of loans in 18 months, RBC economist Laura Cooper said in the report.

$1.65

Canadians owe $1.65 for every dollar of disposable income they have.

Meanwhile, mortgage loan balances were up 6.2 per cent from the same quarter of the prior year as housing prices force many borrowers to take on bigger home loans.

The report begged the question: Can consumer spending continue to drive the economy given that debt loads are so high?

Consumer spending has been the prime driver of the economy since the 2008-09 recession, a trend that has occurred alongside increases in household asset values, as home prices continue to rise.

But total household credit grew by 5.1 per cent in the April to June period, following a quarter in which household net worth advanced at its slowest pace since 2009.

Canadians households now owe a combined $1.94 trillion. A separate study by TransUnion found the average Canadian owed $21,580 in non-mortgage debt during the most recent quarter.

The percentage of both mortgage and non-mortgage loans coming from non-bank lenders — which usually come with higher interest rates and lend to riskier borrowers — rose about five per cent.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

RBC 'monitoring' housing
Royal Bank is "closely monitoring" real estate markets in Vancouver and Toronto, where home prices have been climbing at a breakneck pace, CEO David McKay told analysts who wanted to know what contingency plans were in place in the event of a downturn in house prices.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, August 25, 2016

CHANTAL HÉBERT ON MANDATORY VOTING

There are serious political and practical roadblocks in the way of having a different voting system in place in time for the next election. In a deadlock, could mandatory voting offer a fallback avenue to political consensus?

In the garden of electoral reform, mandatory voting is a low hanging fruit that all parties seem content — for now — to leave on the branch.

That may change if a special parliamentary committee on electoral reform appointed to make recommendations to Justin Trudeau's government ends up deadlocked over the big-ticket item on its agenda.

In the wake of Trudeau's promise to put in place a different voting system in time for the 2019 federal election a cottage industry of electoral experts has sprouted.

The Conservative contention that no move to a different system should take place without its ratification by a national referendum is only contributing to the growth of that industry.

Policy wonks who sometimes have not been heard from since the constitutional debates of the early 1990s are coming out of the woodwork to argue for their pet voting model, or to debate the pros and cons of having a reform ratified by all voters.

So far the public's engagement in this debate has been inversely proportional to the high academic and political interest it is eliciting. Anecdotal evidence suggests that most voters do not see electoral reform as a defining issue of the Trudeau mandate.

But who knows? The unprecedented combination of a Liberal overture to do away with the first-past-the-post system with the long-held dream of the NDP and the Green Party for more proportional representation could yet lead to change. Still, the fact is that there are serious political and practical roadblocks in the way of having a different voting system in place in time for the next election.

Parties cater to those who vote. Mandatory voting would expand not only the pool of younger voters but also that of aboriginal Canadians.

In a deadlock, could mandatory voting offer the special committee a fallback avenue for attaining a political consensus?

To varying degrees two of the parties on the committee have flirted with the idea in the past. It was part of the Green party's 2015 platform. In 2014, the Liberals — under Trudeau — sounded out their members on it. It is no accident that exploring the option is part of the mandate of the special committee.

Mandatory voting is not a substitute for a more proportional voting system. It would address the issue of declining voter turnouts but would not lead to outcomes that more closely reflect the support each party receives.

Minister of Democratic Institutions Maryam Monsef appears at an electoral reform committee meeting in Ottawa in July. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Settling for a reform along those lines would undoubtedly amount to a climbdown from Trudeau's promise and fall well short of the hopes of the NDP and the Greens.

But the introduction of mandatory voting could bring about transformative change in time for the 2019 election without foreclosing the option of switching to a different voting system at some later point down the road.

It would alter the electoral dynamics in a number of quantitative and qualitative ways. Here are some of them:

In a system where voting is not compulsory, ensuring that one's supporters show up to vote is sometimes half the battle. As often as not, the need to mobilize the base takes precedence over expanding a party's tent. It also provides an incentive for parties to practice dog-whistle politics. Mandatory voting could mitigate that tendency.

And then parties cater to those who vote. Mandatory voting would expand not only the pool of younger voters but also that of aboriginal Canadians whose turnout is well below the national average. In the last election, the Assembly of First Nations identified 51 ridings where the aboriginal vote could influence the outcome.

On paper, mandatory voting tends to favour progressive parties. Throwing more young voters in the mix could spell trouble for the Conservatives. They are often the third or fourth choice of that cohort. Chances are the official opposition is no more a fan of compulsory voting than it is of a different voting system.

But it is always risky to use today's trends to predict the electoral future, and not just because political parties tend to adapt to new dynamics.

On that score, consider that not so long ago many analysts would have seen the introduction of compulsory voting in Quebec as a gift designed to keep on giving for the Parti Québécois. For most of its history, it had tended to be the party of choice of young Quebecers. The younger cohort consistently favoured sovereignty. But in 2016, the reverse would be true.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro on Thursdays.

Places to swim still beachhead for bigotry

Shree Paradkar

When Penny Oleksiak made Canadian history this month with a golden victory at Rio, she tied for first place with a 20-year-old who made Olympic history. American Simone Manuel is the first black woman to win an individual Olympic gold in swimming.

Manuel was not just swimming the 100-metre freestyle to win, she was also swimming against a historic legacy of discrimination that kept black people out of swimming pools and public beaches in the U.S., a practice that remained even after schools were desegregated.

Given these historic disincentives, a majority of young African-Americans today can't swim. To them all, Manuel's win is a beacon of possibilities.

That long step to the top of the podium provided good news at a time when, far from turning the tide towards inclusion, places to swim have been exposed as beachheads for bigotry. The place to bare bodies has also laid bare deep-seated racial, cultural and gender-based biases across the Western world. Here are three recent examples.

As reported here in Toronto in July, a hijab-wearing mother was told to leave a public pool if she didn't change her daughter's long shorts and T-shirt, although they were swimwear. (It was deemed OK for her son to wear that.)

In the United States in June, the American Red Cross was forced to apologize after a social media post elicited outrage over a safety poster that labelled white kids "cool" for obeying the rules and kids of colour "uncool" for disobeying them.

In France, the city of Cannes and 15 towns chose to uphold the nation's traditions of liberté and egalité by imposing more rules around women's clothing. On Aug. 12, it banned the burkini — full body-covering swimsuits — on its beaches. The ban does not apply to full-body covering scuba diving suits. Perhaps there was a safety angle to this?

There isn't. The city's decidedly non-Muslim mayor said burkinis were "the uniform of extremist Islamism, not of the Muslim religion."

Beaches have been on the front lines for racial supremacy, as witnessed during Australia's Cronulla Riots of 2005. That country's largest racial riots were sparked off by in Sydney's beach suburb of Cronulla between Australia's much-vaunted lifeguards (who were white) and a group of Lebanese men.

Going to the seaside can be a time of calm reflection and recreation, so why does stripping down to get into water end up stripping down the notion of inclusiveness?

Through the 20th century, going to a pool meant you could afford to pay for it, going to a beach meant you could afford the time for leisure. Both symbolized privilege and luxury, available to a select few.

Gradually opening pools and beaches to all people diluted that privilege. Modern laws don't allow for direct exclusion, but being offended by what others wear, or how they behave, simply allows the threatened elite to disguise their bigotry.

Shree Paradkar is deputy digital editor-multimedia at the Toronto Star.

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Leslie Jones' website taken down after hackers post her driver's licence, explicit photos

Can they say that on network TV?

INTERVIEW

It's the after-party conversations that reveal most about friends in their 20s

Melita Kuburas
Metro | Canada

Four in the Morning stars Daniel Maslany as Bondurant, Lola Tash as Mitzi, Mazin Elsadig as William and Michelle Mylett as Jamie. The diner scenes were filmed in Toronto's Patrician Grill on King Street East. CONTRIBUTED

As the saying goes, "write what you know" — and if that's true then a TV series about being drunk and high at 4 a.m. is right in Ira Parker's wheelhouse, he jokes.

Parker is the creator of Four in the Morning, a comedy launching Friday at 9 p.m. on CBC about a group of friends in their 20s who, after a night of partying, discuss oral sex, abortions, failed job searches and relationships. Speaking really fast, they proclaim love and confess betrayal of one another, sometimes in the same breath (there are 15 pages of dialogue in just the opening scene of the pilot, which takes place in a diner).

If it sounds like the show may push the limits of network TV, it probably will. This ain't no Little Mosque on the Prairie.

When Parker, who has roots in Toronto but now lives in L.A., first learned CBC was interested in the show, he says he was terrified they would want to censor it. But a meeting with reps indicated the network wouldn't tone down it down to the point of Pollyanna.

"My first question was — 'Do I have to take out all the "f—ks"? And they looked at me, and they were like, 'No, leave them in," Parker tells Metro. "So I pushed it a little bit more: I was like, 'I have an idea for an episode where the characters do a sh–t-ton of blow. Can I do that?' And they were like, 'Yeah, as long as it makes sense for the story, go ahead.'"

Four in the Morning is not a show about debauchery, however. It's about those rare moments when the booze starts to wear off that might reveal more tender, sweet and sad aspects of young adulthood.

"I wanted to jump in after the partying and recklessness," says Parker. "After you've been out all night, what is that walk home like? What is that hyper-emotional melodramatic evening like? When you say these things that you rarely have the competence or the courage to say during the more reasonable hours of the day."

For Daniel Maslany's character, a boisterous jazz musician named Bondurant, that after-party gusto translates into having the nerve to tell his best friend William (Mazin Elsadig) that he's in love with his girlfriend, and expecting William to help him figure out what to do.

"I think it really establishes his unapologetic way of saying what he wants, what he feels, and how that matters," says Maslany, 27. "I think that's a big part of being in your 20s — figuring out, who am I socially? Who am I in my career? The show is about people making mistakes, and making an effort to find themselves."

While most of us would be slurring and stumbling while trying to fill our stomachs with something to soak up the alcohol, these characters sound intelligent and witty.

If that's unrealistic it's because they're unreliable narrators, made even more clear by moments of magical realism incorporated into the storyline. For instance, in the second episode the group parties with a couple of "daykids," which are people who are born with a condition that ages them an entire lifetime overnight.

For Maslany, the fantastical elements show what it can feel like to be in those strange moments at 4 a.m., where anything feels possible.

"You're in this pocket of time that's not when most people are awake. It doesn't feel restricted by the same social parameters or things you should be doing," Maslany says.

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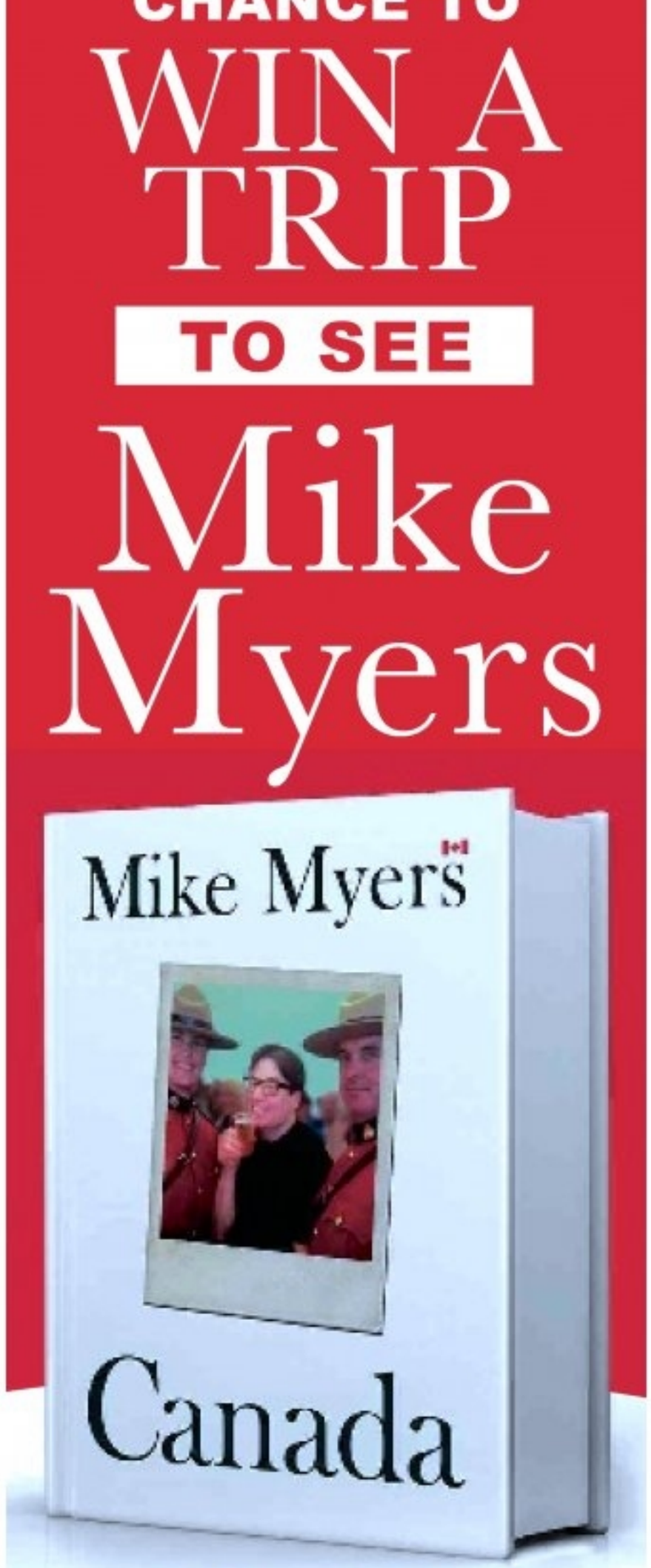

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Examining Orson Welles and the Art of Fake News

ANALYSIS

Drawing a line from War of the Worlds to Donald Trump

Author brad Schwartz explores the legacy of Orson Welles' War of the Worlds broadcast in his new book . ARCHIVE PHOTO

In 1938, the Germans had just invaded Czechoslovakia, the Depression was still raging and there were other daily terrors.

It was in this atmosphere of insecurity that Orson Welles and his company of actors, radio technicians and producers — the Mercury Theatre clan — created a radio program based on H.G. Wells' science fiction novel The War of the Worlds that scared the living daylights out of many who heard it.

It became a famous event in broadcast history. A. Brad Schwartz explores the phenomenon in Broadcast Hysteria: Orson Welles's War of the Worlds and the Art of Fake News.

It was a difficult time in America when Welles broadcast The War of the Worlds. The Second World War was about to begin in Europe; the Depression was still in effect. With massive unemployment in America, the scare caused by the kidnapping of the Charles Lindbergh baby, the closure of banks, the terrible hurricane that slammed New England, people were understandably tense.

I'm not sure if Welles consciously meant to create terror, but he had his antenna up and was drawing from what was in the culture at the time. There was a pervasive climate of fear and he was drawn to that.

The show had a particular impact because of the condition of the country at the time. The war, the hurricane, the Lindbergh kidnapping had all come over the radio. The radio was bringing a scary world into the living rooms of America.

While the War of the Worlds broadcast is the most famous radio show of its type, other radio stations had done similar things before. I'm thinking about WGN in Chicago and its fake news show.

Welles wasn't the first with his War of the Worlds, but he was the first who took techniques and ideas and put them in one program. What struck me was how much the normal news coverage of the time was dramatized or gussied up to make it more entertaining.

We think of that period as the golden age of journalism. But news readers were like actors with personality and events were staged.

Welles was indirectly incorporating those techniques in War of the Worlds, showing the dangers of the news format when you blur the line between news and entertainment. So much of (Donald) Trump's rise can be explained by this need to view news as entertainment. A news organization such as CNN is a business; they are selling their product to advertisers. Trump, whatever you say about him, is entertaining.

Scholars who studied Welles' War of the Worlds determined it had far less of an impact than we were led to believe. Very few people, in fact, believed Martians had landed. But it did change the way people studied and thought about radio.

The panic was greatly exaggerated. Many were frightened by the show for a minute, yes; it may have happened before common sense kicked in. But stories about people grabbing shotguns and pulling kids into the car and racing away were very rare. Most people who were frightened, which was a small fraction of the audience, sat listening until the station break. This story about War of the Worlds becomes a warning for the social media age.

When we are in an environment where people are frightened, fear becomes contagious. It is the whole viral idea. Fast-forward 80 years to the age of Twitter, where it is about sharing information or misinformation.

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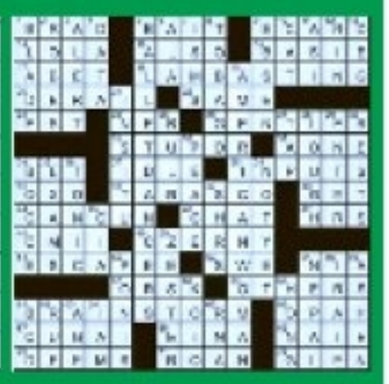

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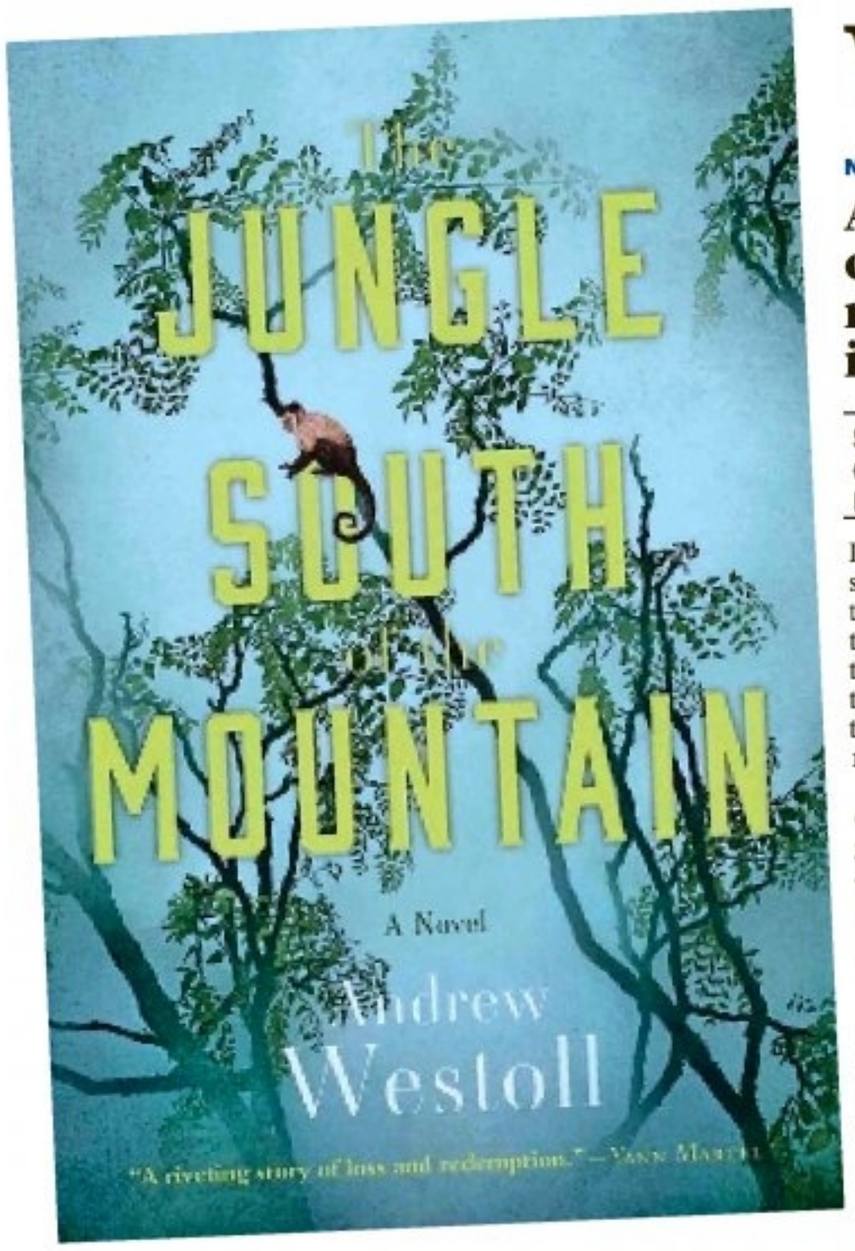

Welcome to the jungle

NOVEL

A real attack on capuchin monkeys impacts story

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

It's been more than a decade since Andrew Westoll has spent time in the rainforest amongst the capuchin monkeys, but the sounds and sights, and the emotions they conjure in the former primatologist have never completely vanished.

Now, they're at the heart of his first novel, The Jungle South of the Mountain, a psychological mystery mixed with magical realism set deep in an unnamed South American country.

"I had my own experiences in the upper Amazon basin, years and years ago," Westoll says. "They just felt like they totally hadn't been put through the sieve."

Westoll, who left science to focus on writing, made a name for himself with his travel memoir The Riverbones, which captures his time in the Suriname jungle, and the award-winning The Chimps of Fauna Sanctuary, a biography of a group of rescued chimpanzees living in Quebec.

But he started his career writing fiction while working on his creative-writing MFA at the University of British Columbia. Like many authors, Westoll has an early "drawer novel" tucked away, but despite his success with non-fiction had always wanted to return to the genre.

The Jungle South of the Mountain follows Stanley, a scientist who has been living for years immersed in a rain forest on the northern coast of South America.

While in mourning after the loss of his son, and the departure of his fellow scientist and wife, Maria, Stanley finds himself embroiled in local politics and the mysterious disappearance of the troop of monkeys they've been tracking.

Stanley came to Westoll one night while wondering what would happen to a scientist who stayed in the jungle too long.

"Once I had that idea, I realized this could be a really amazing way to put my relationship to that part of my life to bed," he says.

He knew Stanley needed some kind of adversary, and so to refresh his memory, the next morning he began looking up videos of capuchin monkeys.

He came across one shaky video taken immediately after a troop of monkeys was attacked by a powerful harpy eagle.

Westoll heard a man's voice exclaim in horror, and realized it was his own. He had totally forgotten shooting the video, and hadn't realized it had been posted online.

"When I heard my voice, it all came rushing back, the power of that moment," he says. "It's profoundly upsetting when you spend all this time with the monkeys and you've named half of them. You see them come under attack like that and it's troubling. I just knew that what's what was going to happen."

Although The Jungle South of the Mountain is far from being autobiographical, Westoll did draw on the internal conflict between rationalism and spiritual faith he's experienced in his own career.

"When I left science, I left because I believed more strongly in the larger truths that literature provides," he says. "It's not that I don't believe the truths of science, I just didn't want to spend my life obsessing over data. I wanted to go in a different direction and use storytelling as a way of understanding the world around me."

> Once I had that idea, I realized this could be a really amazing way to put my relationship to that part of my life to bed
>
> **Author Andrew Westoll**

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

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CONTROVERSY

AFI cancels The Birth of a Nation viewing

The American Film Institute has cancelled plans to screen writer-director Nate Parker's The Birth of a Nation for students this week amid controversies surrounding a rape accusation from 1999 against Parker and his co-writer.

The school planned to show the film and host a Q&A with Parker for its fellows, but late Tuesday, AFI dean Jan Schuette sent a note to students saying they would postpone until later in the year.

It would have marked the first time Parker has appeared in public since the case resurfaced nearly two weeks ago. Parker was acquitted.

Schuette said the school plans to hold a moderated discussion to explore issues of "messenger and message, gender, race and more."

The movie is slated to be screened next month at the Toronto International Film Festival.

However, Deadline.com is reporting that there will be no press conference held at TIFF for the film.

Parker will join the cast for press junket interviews on the weekend of Sept. 10-11, though.

Fox Searchlight still plans to release The Birth of a Nation on Oct. 7.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Social media killed Larry Wilmore show

THE SHOW: The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore, Season 2, Episode 147
THE MOMENT: The host's farewell

In the final minutes of his final show, host Larry Wilmore explains why the world map on his studio wall is upside-down. "Upside-down is just an opinion," he says.

"If you're floating in space, the Earth can take any orientation.

"But as a culture, we agree with the opinion that the world should be seen a certain way," he continues.

"So at The Nightly Show, our chief mission was to disagree with that premise, and to see the world in a way that might not make everyone comfortable, and to present a cast of people who don't always get to have a voice on that.

"On that front I believe we've been successful."

Neither Bruce Springsteen nor hordes of politicos sang out Wilmore, as they did Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert.

The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore wasn't killed by ratings, it was lack of social media engagement. But that's because Wilmore didn't do viral bits, he did discussions. CONTRIBUTED

Given the speed of Wilmore's cancellation, it's amazing he had a finale, period. (He was informed on Aug. 11 that his final show would be Aug. 18.)

Wilmore went out as he came in, attempting to engage the audience with an idea.

It wasn't low ratings that killed him. It was, in network terms, lack of social media engagement — viral bits, a la Jimmy Fallon's lip-synching contests.

But Wilmore didn't do bits. He did discussions.

Discussions about topics too nuanced and troubling (systemic racism, gun violence) for 140 characters.

I wish Comedy Central had seen the value in — the acute need for — a show that offered that, social media be damned.

Instead we'll get more celebrities bumping each other in sumo suits. Sigh.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

Find yourself and your family a wide open space

There's a new type of Vancouverite: the upsizer. They're looking for fresh air and open space, often to raise a family in. The run-of-the-mill city condo just doesn't cut it.

For these homebuyers, a single family home in a countryside setting is just what the doctor ordered. Camden at The Falls is that breath of fresh air. The first phase of single-family homes in a master-planned community located on The Falls golf course in Chilliwack. Camden is a 35 minute drive from Langley and a 2.5 hour drive to Kelowna.

If you're looking for a place to buy where your family can move up and spread out, this is the place. Buyers now have the opportunity to become some of the first residents in this master-planned community.

Now in preconstruction, Camden at The Falls community will be 341 acres in total, located at The Falls Golf Club.

"Many Lower Mainland residents are looking for more space and better value to fit the changing needs of their family," says Kevin Hoffman, VP Development of Aquilini Developments. "Camden offers what upsizing and downsizing families are looking for. Spacious, single-family homes in an establishing community with amazing views of the valley at unbeatable value."

The Falls Golf Club, which is also owned by the developer and is part of the master-planned community, offers recreation for everyone who appreciates golfing, from the hardcore, rain-or-shine golfer to the occasional player. The prices at Camden will enhance your experience of home ownership even more. The 2,625-square-foot, four-bed, three-bath homes start from $637,900 and a 1,336-square-foot, two-bed, two-bath, rancher-style homes start from $529,900.

The homes include high-level materials and finishes, as well as finished basements — so you can make full use of the homes right away. The panoramic views of the valley are stunning. Camden's lush, natural setting is the perfect place to escape to, with rolling greens at your door and panoramas of the verdant valley farmlands and surrounding mountains.

CONTRIBUTED

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"This is the ideal place for families who want more space and better value," says Hoffman

Camden at The Falls is now previewing. Visit the presentation centre at 8361 Nixon Road, Chilliwack, just up from The Falls Golf Club. Open daily noon to 5 p.m., except Friday.

For more information, contact 604-793-3800 or online at livethefalls.com.

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WHERE TO INVEST IN A VIEW

CONTRIBUTED

Homes aren't considered luxury-class in Vancouver unless they show residents some of the city's killer views. Evolve, a new affordable luxury condo development in Surrey's City Centre, delivers.

"The region's natural beauty is such an essential part of what it means to live in Greater Vancouver," says Joe Taylor, sales manager at the development. "A great home here will let you enjoy that natural beauty in your everyday life. The views at Evolve will be some of the best in the city."

Outside the floor-to-ceiling windows at Evolve you can see out across the North Shore mountains, the Fraser River, Vancouver's cityscapes and ample green space.

New view homes are now available at Evolve, and buyers can get up to $30,000 off the already affordable prices for a limited time.

Remaining units in the state-of-the-art condo building include studios and one-bedrooms as well as executive-level, two-plus-dens and penthouses. The homes start at $211,900.

The architects of Evolve purposely added a bit of the outdoors to every home at the development, providing a spacious balcony perfect for taking in the panoramas.

Indoors, the homes are based on the idea of affordable luxury. That means finishings that are attractive and beautifully designed, while also being practical and affordable.

The floors are polished and protected at the same time by high-quality laminate hardwood flooring. The 8.5-foot ceilings create an open feel.

Modern kitchens are highly practical with polished chrome finishes, stainless steel appliances by GE, soft-close hardware, stainless steel undermount sinks, quartz countertops and backsplash — all the perfect backdrop for spending time in the kitchen whether you're cooking a meal for two or six, or just enjoying a glass of wine after work.

"The homes needed to be usable and adaptable to every resident, no matter their lifestyle," says Taylor. The customizable homes come with a choice of two contemporary, professionally designed colour palettes.

The diverse buyers who have already purchased in Evolve range from single, first-time buyers, to couples, young families, investors and downsizers.

"Homes at Evolve are the definition of affordable luxury — they're for everyone," says Taylor.

A home that's part of a bigger community

When city planners designed the new Surrey City Centre more than a decade ago, they had a vision for a city where people from diverse groups came together for arts and culture, social events and commerce.

Now that dream has become a reality, and Surrey is Greater Vancouver's fastest growing region.

Evolve, an affordable luxury condo development in Surrey City Centre is at the heart of it all. Located in the West Village neighbourhood, Evolve will become a part of Surrey's growing centre. The master-planned community, built by WestStone Group, is a series of six condominium towers and more than 2,800 new homes that will be going up in Surrey's city centre, bringing people of all ages and backgrounds together into the community.

When you live at Evolve, there's lots of shopping to choose from. Immediately at street level in your building, you'll have access to a grocery store, cafés, shops and services.

The newness of the area gives the neighbourhood a sense of optimism.

The super-modern architecture of the area is striking. Several new, beautifully designed buildings make up the core of the neighbourhood.

CONTRIBUTED

The leaning glass Surrey Public Library was designed by Vancouver's Bing Thom Architects. The new civic plaza provides a gathering place for community activities, including the Surrey Farmers Market. The new, modern Surrey City Hall and performing arts centre offer gathering spaces for the community too.

Evolve is a great place for students as well. Simon Fraser University's Surrey campus is located nearby, within Central City Shopping Mall. And soon the new Kwantlen Polytechnic University Surrey campus will be coming to the Civic Plaza.

At Evolve you don't necessarily need a car to get around and while every home at Evolve includes a parking stall, the Surrey Central SkyTrain Station is just 10 minutes away by foot. From there, you'll have all of Vancouver within reach.

Ways to experience Evolve

In step with Evolve's modern design and construction, the development also has a cutting-edge and very useful way for you to discover more about the project – the Evolve 3D app.

The app provides a way for you to view the homes from your mobile device by scanning the downloadable markers.

Through it, you can experience 3D imagery of the views, the Evolve tower and a 360-degree tour.

Of course, another great way to experience the homes themselves, including the high-quality finishes and smart space design, is to visit the beautiful Evolve presentation centre in person. The presentation centre is located at 13328 104 Avenue, Surrey, B.C.

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*Illustration reflects the artist's interpretation of the project and does not take into account the neighboring buildings, physical structures, streets and landscape and, when built, may be noticeably different than what is depicted. Promotions and unit starting prices and availability are subject to change without prior notification. This is not an offering for sale which may only be made with the applicable disclosure statement and agreement of purchase and sale. E & O.E

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PLATINUM PROJECT MARKETING

metro HOME

Your essential daily news

An interior decorator has been tasked with giving the Queen Mary 2 a refresh

MEET THE CONDO

Connected, modern living

CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

Midtown Modern is a collection of 50 homes featuring junior one-bedrooms to penthouses. The modern facade is defined by crisp, clean lines and stands out as a bold example of contemporary architecture within the Mount Pleasant community. The four-storey development is PortLiving's third project in the area.

Housing amenities

PortLiving recognizes the importance of the outdoor living space and has designed Midtown Modern with that in mind. Every home includes a generous balcony or patio, perfect for entertaining all year round. Penthouses boast rooftop decks with lush greenery and landscaping, accessible from the balcony.

Location and transit

Midtown Modern residents are connected to a network of bus and bike routes, allowing homeowners to reduce their carbon footprint and rely less on a car. Whether it's for work or pleasure, downtown Vancouver is a seven-minute drive away.

In the neighbourhood

Located at 630 East Broadway, Midtown Modern is perfectly located within walking distance to Main and Broadway and Olympic Village. This location has earned a Walk Score of 94 with grocery stores, coffee shops and restaurants nearby.

NEED TO KNOW

What: Midtown Modern
Developer: PortLiving
Architect: Studio B Architects
Location: Mount Pleasant, Vancouver
Building: Four-storey condo
Sizes: From 544 square feet to 911 square feet
Model: Junior one-bedrooms to penthouses
Pricing: Contact sales team
Status: Pre-sales
Occupancy: Contact sales team
Sales centre: By private appointment
Phone: 604-563-3330
Website: LivingMidtown.com

SMALL SPACES

New Ikea catalogue embraces our modern lifestyle

Zoe McKnight
Torstar News Service

For many, braving the crowds at Ikea for off-to-college or back-to-school shopping is an end-of-summer routine.

That makes August one of the Swedish home retailer's busiest months. It also marks the launch of the annual, much-anticipated catalogue.

This year's shopping guide reflects the findings of a recent survey conducted by Ikea: people are living in spaces and under arrangements very different from four decades ago when Ikea launched in Canada.

The company's latest Life at Home Report — a survey of 12,000 people in 12 cities around the world, including Toronto — acknowledges the social changes that have altered the way homes are arranged: the growth of single-person households, small spaces, shared or temporary accommodations, lack of housing, caring for elders at home and college grads moving back in.

"We're noticing a lot of open concept rooms in a home. It's often a shared space, with multiple generations doing different things," Frechette says.

Many of the catalogue's images reflect loft-style and condo living, with exposed bricks and pipes, bikes in the hallway and multiple roommates under one roof.

Families and friends eat at the coffee table or over the sink, kids play on bunk beds in the living room.

While the full Ikea kitchen is still a dream for many homeowners, this year designers have come up with a kitchen that's portable for a more transient generation of renters with a "thin wallet and a small space." The guy in the photo has a man-bun, in case the millennial message wasn't clear.

Ikea spokeswoman Lucy Frechette said designers actually visited families in their homes for days at a time to observe routines and find out where frustrations lie — is it storage, counter space, privacy? — and then built products to make improvements.

Shared spaces are central to the new Ikea catalogue. SUPPLIED

Roses are the perfect summer refresh

GARDENING

Follow these pro tips to get that second season bloom

Mark Cullen
Torstar News Service

It is a new world in the rose garden. Much like social media changed the way we communicate, new rose varieties are changing the ways we use and appreciate them.

A browse through a current gardening catalogue reveals no less than eight categories of roses, eight branded sub-categories, 19 new varieties for this season and 140 varieties in total. This is just one Canadian nursery; there are others that provide different offerings.

Why do I raise this now, in August? The answer: there's a second season of rose blossoms just around the corner. Try not to miss it.

Roses generally bloom best in June and early July. Then as evening temperatures start to drop and days become shorter, the second bloom is triggered and rose bushes put on a great show in September and October. Often, these blooms last longer than the spring editions for exactly the same reasons that make them bloom a second time: shorter days and cooler evenings.

Rose bushes put on a great show in September and October.

Your vision

Planting roses can enhance an area in your yard several ways. Some, such as David Austin roses, are known best for their fragrance. The new Pavement roses are considered some of the best living ground covers, growing to no more than 90 centimetres high, hugging the ground in colour and foliage. Roses for cutting are generally found in the hybrid tea section of the garden centre. A hedge or screen of thorny roses can best be achieved using winter-hardy shrub roses.

At this mid-summer stage it's time to hit the "refresh" button on your garden scheme and consider planting roses. ISTOCK

Work or no work

One of the biggest improvements in new rose introductions this generation is disease resistance. Once famous for the work required to keep them looking good, many new rose varieties do not need spraying (or dusting) or any special protection over the winter.

Shrub roses are winter hardy. Look for Ottawa Explorer shrub roses, such as Champlain, John Cabot, and George Vancouver. Why not plant a "Canada 150" anniversary rose garden? Plant it now and it will look fabulous next spring! The new Knock Out series of roses is a great example of how vastly improved the garden performance is with roses. I have had great success with the Pink Double Knock Out.

Your yard as a canvas

If you imagine your garden as a blank canvas, roses can fit the bill where many other shrubs and perennials fall short. A mass planting of the shrub roses Bonica or Oso Easy can produce a one-two punch of colour that is unsurpassed in the garden. When you see gas stations planting masses of roses together you can be sure they are low maintenance and great garden performers.

Sun

One essential ingredient in the "rose growing" recipe is sunshine. Lots of it: a minimum of six hours a day. Or forget it.

Canadian grown

Roses provide an excellent example of why it is a good idea to buy locally. The roses tagged with "grown in Canada" have already experienced two Canadian winters. They thrived on the farm in an open field, with wind, long summer days and Canadian soil conditions. A Canadian-grown rose performs as it should and meets the expectations of experienced gardeners.

Mark Cullen is an expert gardener, Order of Canada recipient, author and broadcaster. Follow him on Twitter @MarkCullen4 and on Facebook.

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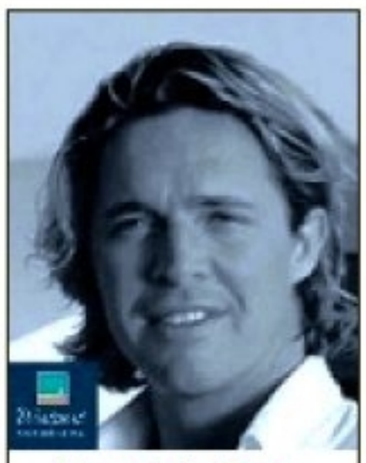

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metro SPORTS

Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal say they plan to play doubles together when the Laver Cup debuts next year

Back to the grind for LPGA Olympians

GOLF

Canadian Open follows Rio Games

It's back to the real world for Brooke Henderson, Lydia Ko and a handful of other Olympians who have left Rio de Janeiro behind and are preparing for the Canadian Open.

Henderson, the 18-year-old from Smiths Falls, Ont., finished in a tie for seventh place at the Summer Olympics.

Her face is everywhere at Priddis Greens Golf and Country Club near Calgary where the Canadian Open, the national women's golf championship, runs Thursday through Sunday. She's hoping for a better finish back home in Canada than she achieved at the Olympics, lamenting the two or three shots that cost her a medal.

But coming from Rio to Priddis, Alta., isn't a big deal.

"Rio was kind of just a sixth major on the LPGA Tour," said Henderson on Wednesday. "Of course there was lots of other things going on — possible distractions and it was like the world's biggest stage for sport.

"It was cool, but the end of the day it was just four rounds of golf, regular stroke play individual that we do every single week, playing against the same players we play against every week so nothing that way was any different. Coming here's just another week on tour."

Lydia Ko hits a tee shot during the pro-am at the Canadian Open tournament in Priddis, Alta., Wednesday. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ko finished with a silver medal for South Korea at the Olympics and is a three-time winner of the Canadian Open.

"I can remember back to a week ago when I was flying into Rio and I was excited to prepare and everything and it was like there — and it was over," Ko said.

"It's definitely a quick turnaround but you know this is one of our best tournaments on our tour schedule so even the girls that were in Rio I think we're all excited to be here."

Ko, who is the reigning Canadian Open champion, says there are a few things she and her fellow Olympians are having to adapt to.

"Last week the course was a little bit like sand belt with a little bit of British flair. This is a bit more traditional ... it's firm and fast. Last week we were wearing shorts — this week we're wearing sweaters," she said.

"It's different but I think we're all getting used to it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Yankees rookie striking fear in foes

It took little time for Yankees rookie Gary Sanchez to receive the type of respect normally reserved for established veterans considered among the elite hitters.

Seven home runs in the past nine games will quickly earn anyone respect. And in the case of Sanchez in Wednesday's 5-0 victory over the Seattle Mariners that torrid stretch led to him receiving two intentional walks just so the Mariners could face Mark Teixeira instead.

"You don't see it very often. You really don't," New York manager Joe Girardi said. "It means that (Seattle manager) Scott Servais is paying attention to how he is swinging, number one, besides just here in Seattle. It just says a lot about him, his abilities."

Sanchez's home run in the first inning and Masahiro Tanaka winning his fourth straight start helped the Yankees take two of three from the Mariners and close on one of the teams they're chasing in the AL wild-card race. The Yankees won their third straight road series.

Tanaka (11-4) threw seven innings and got the better of the Mariners and his former Japan league teammate Hisashi Iwakuma (14-9).

Sanchez homered into the second deck in left field in the first inning on the first pitch from Iwakuma, his ninth home run in 18 games since joining the Yankees lineup on Aug. 3. He became the fifth player since 1913 to have nine or more home runs in his first 21 games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEDNESDAY In Seattle

5	0
YANKEES	MARINERS

IN BRIEF

Meersman claims second stage win at Vuelta

Gianni Meersman of Belgium earned his second win in four days at the Spanish Vuelta after a sprint finish and a crash in the peloton in the final two kilometres on Wednesday.

Colombian Darwin Atapuma maintained the overall lead for a second day, after avoiding the fallen riders.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toronto FC wins to move atop Eastern Conference

Jozy Altidore scored in the 86th minute, Sebastian Giovinco had two assists and Toronto FC beat Orlando City 2-1 on Wednesday night.

Toronto (12-7-7) won its sixth game during a seven-game unbeaten streak and moved past New York City FC atop the Eastern Conference.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

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Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1/2 onion, finely chopped
- 1/4 cup diced pancetta
- 2 1/2 cups mini white potatoes, quartered
- 1 cup stock
- 3 cups milk
- 1 cup peas
- 250 g skinless, boneless white fish, chopped into chunks
- 2 Tbsp fresh chopped dill
salt and pepper

Directions

1. Heat the oil in a large saucepan, tip in the onions and pancetta and cook until onions are softened and pancetta is browned, about 5 minutes. Add the potatoes and cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Pour in stock, cover and simmer for 12-15 mins or until the potatoes are tender. With a slotted spoon, remove half the potatoes from the stock and set aside.

2. Transfer the remaining potatoes, stock into a blender or food processor, add the milk and whizz until smooth. Pour back into the pan, add the peas, fish and reserved potatoes. Cover and gently heat for 3-4 mins until the fish is just cooked through – don't boil. Stir in dill then season to taste.

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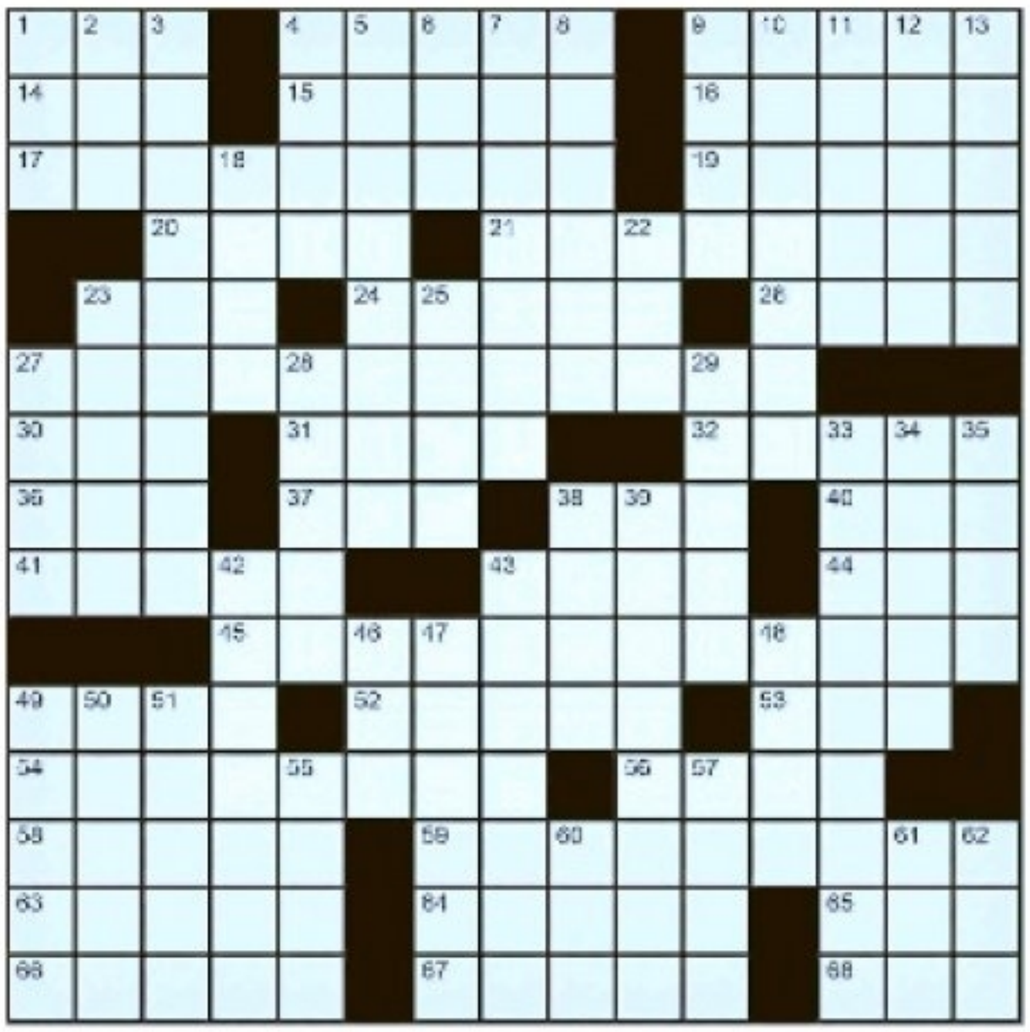
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Toronto mayor Mr. Lastman from 1998 to 2003
4. "Is that such _ _ idea?"
9. Michael _, Coal Miner's Daughter (1980) director
14. Latin roe
15. 'Mono' add-on (Auditioner's delivery)
16. Canadian TV channel
17. August 25th to August 28th, 2016... Nautique WWA _ World Championships, at the Canadian National Exhibition, in Toronto
19. Like fish fillet
20. "Blimey!"
21. Nose ornamentation
23. You-know-_
24. "Coffee, _ _ milk?"
26. Mr. Donovan
27. Canadian donuts chain established in 1963: 2 wds.
30. YYZ posting, wee-ly
31. River inlets
32. Paris: _ _ Triomphe
36. Kate's leading man in 1997
37. Pre-lunch hrs.
38. Dubliner's dance
40. Vienna's land, IOC-style
41. k.d.'s kin
43. Parched
44. Commerce deg.
45. Capital + Terr.: 2 wds.
49. Like Freddy's tree
52. '70s idol Mr. Cassidy
53. Mr. Levin
54. Paul Anka, in the 1950s: 2 wds.
56. Bash
58. Job filler
59. Kate of Charlie's Angels ...when addressed formally: 2 wds.
63. Upper crust
64. _-_-surface missile
65. Tarzan and _ Mate (1934)
66. Latticework strips
67. Sprinkle
68. Archery tree

DOWN
1. _ the lawn
2. Ms. Gabor
3. Body of water on which Sarnia sits: 2 wds.
4. Jessica _
5. Furniture feature: 2 wds.
6. Lettered grocery chain
7. Exceed
8. Ren's insult to Stimpy, "You _!"
9. Shortened word
10. _ & Gamble
11. Alias for Patty Hearst in the SLA
12. Happening
13. Big name in trucks
18. Dr. _ Spengler, Ghostbusters (1984) role
22. 'Brew' suffix
23. Accessorized the suit, _ _ tie
25. Young hawk
27. Ring up
28. Garbage
29. Tavern beverage
33. Unappreciative of paparazzi
34. Nickname of Dick Cheney's President
35. Coup d'_
38. Chariot-driving biblical King of Israel
39. Buckingham Palace lays behind this type of entrance: 2 wds.
42. Ms. Paltrow
43. Closes the container: 2 wds.
46. Q. "_ '_' the fourth letter?" A. "Indeed."
47. St. _, Ontario
48. Posh fabric
49. Barrymore or Merman
50. Priestess in Georges Bizet opera The Pearl Fishers
51. Warrant
55. Wraths
57. "Don't have _ _, man!" - Bart Simpson
60. Mr. Tolkien
61. Goose: French
62. Sydney is the cap. of what Australian state?

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Steer clear of controversial issues like politics, religion and racial matters, because there is too much confusion today. Even when it comes to travel plans, you might be indecisive.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is a poor day to make important decisions about inheritances and shared property. An element of confusion, even deceit, is present. Plus you might not be strong enough to defend your own best interests.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
It's hard to stand up to others today, even to defend yourself. Fortunately, other people may have the same difficulty! It's definitely a wishy-washy day.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Your efforts to get things done at work will be challenged by confusion regarding travel, foreign countries and the timing of when things should be done. Good luck!

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Be careful with social plans or plans regarding vacations. Leave yourself a loophole in case you have to change things. Similarly, choose less-ambitious projects when dealing with children.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Postpone important decisions about family or real estate situations, because there is too much confusion today. People are indecisive. It's hard to know what to do.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Today is one of those days where you're not sure when or how to act. That's why it might be best to just do nothing. Easy does it.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Be careful with financial arrangements and how you handle your money today. Assume nothing. Take nothing for granted. Guard your possessions.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You might feel tired today. This is not a good day to tax yourself or to push your energy too far. Just take care of smaller matters.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Secrets might come out today. Or perhaps you are involved with secret activities. Be careful and commit to nothing, to be on the safe side.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your efforts to lead others today might be impeded by something. Don't expect too much from anyone (including yourself). Go slowly.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Check things out, especially instructions from bosses and authority figures, before you act today. It's all too easy to go off in a wrong direction. If you are smart, you can save wasted effort and possible mistakes.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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*Service not available everywhere. Local loop Access Fee of $5.95 if needed is not included. $18 Shipping Fee & $59.95 Activation Fee applies. [1]A rate of 25 cents per GB will be charged if usage exceeds the plan's monthly data limit. [2]Unlimited Data Usage is governed by our Fair Usage policy. While most customers will never reach these limits, we may elect to slow your speed to 1.5Mbps for downloads and 512kbps for uploads. VoIP 911 has certain limitations. Prices do not include applicable taxes. Full details available at comwave.net/terms.